

ABSTRACT

A network device which includes means for receiving data packets over a link, a memory
5 for the packets, means for providing an indication that the occupancy of the memory is
less than a first watermark, and means responsive to the indication for providing a
sequence of pause frames comprising an alternating sequence of XOFF frames defining a
very long cessation of the sending of packets and XON frames defining substantially zero
cessation of the sending of packets. The means for providing the pause frames is
10 responsive to the increase of the occupancy of the memory above a selected watermark to
cease the provision of the sequence of pause frames.